

A Work Session of the City Council was held Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chamber in City Hall, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ 07026.

Mayor Frank J. Calandriello presided. City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica announced that the meeting was being held in accordance with provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice was provided by mail and fax to the official City newspapers and to other interested parties and by posting the meeting notice on the bulletin boards in City Hall.

Councilmembers Present: Louis G. Aloia, James Krone, Stanley J. Moskal and Joseph Delaney
Councilmembers Absent: Frank J. Calandriello
Also Present: City Clerk Andrew J. Pavlica, City Attorney Joseph J. Rotolo, City Engineer Representative Bernard Mirandi (for City Engineer Kevin J. Boswell), Interim Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Police Chief Kevin Amos

CROSSING GUARD SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

It was announced that the purpose of the First Portion of this Work Session was for presentations to Crossing Guard Deborah Fenzlein who was injured in the line of duty on January 17, 2006 and to announce a Statewide Crossing Guard Safety Training Program by the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund.

Mayor Calandriello asked City Clerk Pavlica to read the following letter:

March 27, 2007

Debbie Fenzlein
369 Semel Avenue
Garfield, NJ 07026

Dear Debbie:

I regret that I am unable to join you this evening as the Mayor, City Council, Principal Margarita Pennisi, students and friends join to celebrate your recovery. You have long been known as a dedicated, caring crossing guard, always reaching out to protect the students of Roosevelt School #7.

This is your night. You have earned the recognition. I commend you for the tremendous respect that the students and staff at School #7 have shown for you. Best wishes.

Very truly yours,
Thomas J. Duch, Esq.

TJD/p
cc: Mayor and Council

Mayor Calandriello introduced City Insurance Risk Management Consultant Frank Covelli of Professional Insurance Associates who introduced Assemblymen Gary Shaer and Fred Scalera who made a few remarks and presented Ms. Fenzlein, on behalf of themselves and Senator Paul Sarlo, with a proclamation from the State Assembly.

Insurance Risk Manager Covelli introduced Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund Executive Director David Grubb who made a few remarks and showed a thirteen minute Crossing Guard Safety Training video.

Mayor Calandriello introduced Mary Louise Doner, the Internal Claims Auditor/Claims Specialist of the Public Entity Risk Management Administration, and Charles S. Cuccia, the Past Chairman of the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund, who both made a few remarks and presented Ms. Fenzlein with a bouquet of flowers.

Mayor Calandriello introduced Ridgewood Village Police Chief William Corcoran, the President of the Bergen County Police Chiefs Association, who made a few remarks.

CROSSING GUARD SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

Mayor Calandriello introduced Deputy Police Chief Kevin Amos and Traffic Sergeant Ronald Polonkay, who supervises City Crossing Guards, who both made a few remarks.

Mayor Calandriello introduced Theodore Roosevelt School No. 7 Principal Margaret Pennesi who made a few remarks.

Mayor Calandriello asked City Clerk Pavlica to read the following resolution:

Resolution

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2006, Garfield Crossing Guard Deborah Fenzlein was struck by a vehicle at the intersection of Frederick Street and Lincoln Place while performing her duties for the children of Theodore Roosevelt School No. 7, and

WHEREAS, as a result of this accident, Deborah suffered severe head and brain injuries, had many surgeries, but is making a remarkable recovery and has expressed her determination to successfully complete physically therapy and to hopefully some day return to her job as a crossing guard, and

WHEREAS, as a testament to her good character and dedication to family and community, "Debbie" is well liked by her colleagues and the students of Theodore Roosevelt School No. 7, and

WHEREAS, from May to November 2006, each grade level sent her a theme basket and letters and pictures of encouragement and sentiment, and Debbie visited Roosevelt School No. 7 in June, and she was able to enter the building with assistance and visit with the children on the first floor, and

WHEREAS, she also visited the school during Halloween and Christmas, bringing the students treats each time, and the students were thrilled to see her steadfast improvement each time, and the school raised over \$4,000 to help Debbie with expenses, and

WHEREAS, her personal tragedy has not gone unnoticed beyond Garfield, and in an effort to turn her tragic situation into a positive one, the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund, in cooperation with the New Jersey State Police Chiefs Association, has developed a Crossing Guard Safety Training Program for implementation state-wide, effective on or about April 1, 2007,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey that GET WELL wishes are hereby extended to DEBORAH FENZLEIN for a full recovery from her injuries incurred serving the people of Garfield, and she is hereby publicly recognized on being an inspiration for a Crossing Guard Safety Training Program which will benefit many across the State and protect the health, safety and welfare of countless current and future crossing guards and children for years to come.

(Sgd) All Five Councilmembers

Each Councilmember made remarks concerning Deborah Fenzlein and the Crossing Guard Safety Training Program and then presented Ms. Fenzlein with a framed copy of the signed resolution which was to be adopted at the Regular Meeting to be held later this evening.

Mayor Calandriello asked Ms. Fenzlein to make a few remarks.

SHORT RECESS, EXIT OF COUNCILMEMBER ALOIA AND RETURN TO ORDER

At 7:00 PM, a short recess was called. At 7:10 PM, Mayor Calandriello again called the Work Session to order and all City Officials were present as before the recess with the exception of Councilmember Louis G. Aloia. It was duly noted for the record.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

City Clerk/Deputy City Manager Andrew J. Pavlica reported on the following:

1. The proposed tax levy for the School System portion of the tax bill was reduced from \$2.4 million to \$861,000.
2. The new Middle School off Lanza Avenue, which was scheduled to open by April 2007, will open in September 2007.
3. A proposed resolution objecting to proposed franchise fees to be imposed by the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission.
4. The secretaries in the City Manager's Office had contacted the City Clerk's Offices in Paterson and Newark and they advised the City Manager's Secretaries that they have had no complaints in their cities when mosques issue a call to prayer.
5. The completion of the sign for Columbus Park at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Outwater Lane which welcomes visitors to Garfield, the home of Luis Castillo of the San Diego Chargers, Miles Austin of the Dallas Cowboys and Wayne Chrebet of the New York Jets.
6. The Family Path exercise equipment to be installed at several locations in Twentieth Century Field originally was to cost \$12,000, but since Garfield will be the first location for this equipment, the manufacturer agreed to install the equipment at cost of approximately \$3,500.
7. A proposed Canadian Geese control system to be utilized in the City's parks.
8. The Health Department "FUN" logo has been trademarked by the City.
9. The Poster Grant of \$4,000 received from Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield by the City Health Department.
10. The need for the Loaves and Fishes Interfaith Food Pantry to file a new Community Development grant application.
11. The status of the Belmont Oval Park Improvement Project off Spring Street.
12. The Grand Opening of the Community Bank of Bergen County at 517 River Drive from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Saturday, March 31st.
13. The need to defeat the Ordinance op for Second Reading tonight concerning the Police Rate of pay for other projects.
14. The Pacific Avenue and Market Street Sewer Line Rehabilitation Project.

CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 07-114

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to exclude the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that such circumstances now exist,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Garfield, Bergen County, New Jersey, that a "Closed Session" is hereby called at 7:35 PM on Tuesday, March 27, 2007 to discuss the following as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

CLOSED SESSION

- * Collective bargaining agreements including the negotiation of the terms and thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body; (Proposal by PBA Local No. 46 for Partial Payment of Unused Sick Days).
- * Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public or any investigation of violations or possible violations of the law: (Disturbance at Michele's Restaurant Located at 34 Passaic Street on Friday, March 23, 2007 to Saturday, March 24,, 2007; Request by Mark Wallace for Internal Affairs Investigation into his Arrest on February 22, 2007).
- * Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplinary action of personnel unless the individual in the right request a public meeting in writing; (Grievance of Finance Department Employee Barbara Gazdagen; David Gonzalez Temporary Transfer to the Court from Water Billing; Ann Gasko to Remain in Water Billing to Assist in the Transition to billing by the Passaic Valley Water Commission; Request for Additional Court Personnel and Interviews With Bi-Lingual Candidates; Advertisement for Bi-Lingual Dispatcher).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public interest or without violation of the confidentiality of personnel.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Absent 1 – Councilmember Aloia

(Sgd) Joseph Delaney
Stanley J. Moskal

CHANGE OF VENUE, EXIT OF CITY ENGINEER REPRESENTATIVE
MIRANDI AND RETURN TO ORDER

At 7:35 PM, a short recess was called to move the Work Session down the hall to the Second Floor Conference Room. At 7:40 PM, Mayor Calandriello again called the Work Session to order in Closed Session in the Conference Room and all City Officials were present as before the recess with the exception of City Engineer Representative Bernard Mirandi. It was duly noted for the record.

ADJOURNMENT

After the City Council came out of Closed Session at 8:10 PM, there being no further business, Councilmember Delaney moved to adjourn the Work Session. Councilmember Krone duly seconded the motion.

On call of roll, Ayes 4,
Absent 1 – Councilmember Aloia

Andrew J. Pavlica, CITY CLERK

